

Coal Miner Employment and Domestic Energy Infrastructure Protection Act: The House began consideration of H.R. 3409, to limit the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to issue regulations before December 31, 2013, under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977. Further proceedings were postponed. **Page H6196**

Pursuant to the rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 112–32 shall be considered as an original bill for the purpose of amendment under the five-minute rule, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Natural Resources now printed in the bill. **Page H6204**

Agreed to:

Bucshon amendment (No. 2 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that requires that the Secretary, or any other Federal official proposing a rule under this Act, shall publish with each rule proposed under this Act each scientific study the Secretary or other official, respectively, relied on in developing the rule. This amendment ensures that rules being issued are based on scientific study; **Pages H6212–13**

Benishek amendment (No. 6 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that requires the Committee for the Cumulative Analysis of Regulations that Impact Energy and Manufacturing in the United States to include the health effects associated with regulatory costs in its assessment; and **Pages H6217–18**

Harris amendment (No. 7 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that reinforces the transparency and sound science requirements in the bill. Specifically, it requires EPA to make data and modeling inputs available to the public, and requires Regulatory Impact Analysis to undergo external peer review according to the agency's own peer review guidelines. **Pages H6218–19**

Proceedings Postponed:

Markey amendment (No. 1 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that seeks to allow the Secretary of the Interior to promulgate rules under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act, if such rule would reduce the prevalence of pulmonary diseases, lung cancer, cardiovascular disease or reduce the prevalence of birth defects or reproductive problems in pregnant women or children; **Pages H6211–12**

Waxman amendment (No. 3 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that seeks to strike the language that would repeal EPA's scientific finding that carbon pollution endangers the public health and welfare; **Pages H6213–14**

Kelly amendment (No. 4 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that seeks to require the Secretary of Transportation to submit a report to Congress estimating the number of jobs, the fatalities and injuries,

and the cost to the economy caused by the “2017 and Later Model Year Light-Duty Vehicle Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Corporate Average Fuel Economy Standards” rule. Would require that the Secretary shall not consult with the EPA or the California Air Resources Board to complete the report; and **Pages H6214–16**

Markey amendment (No. 5 printed in H. Rept. 112–680) that seeks to allow the Environmental Protection Agency to take any action using its authority under the Clean Air Act if such action would increase North American energy independence by reducing demand for oil. **Pages H6216–17**

H. Res. 788, the rule providing for consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 118) and the bill (H.R. 3409) was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 233 yeas to 182 nays, Roll No. 588, after the previous question was ordered by a yea-and-nay vote of 238 yeas to 179 nays, Roll No. 587. **Pages H6173–74**

A point of order was raised against the consideration of H. Res. 788 and it was agreed to proceed with consideration of the resolution by voice vote. **Pages H6165–67**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Five yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H6173–74, H6174, H6194–95, H6195, H6196. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Committee Meetings

CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM STANDARDS PROGRAM

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security held a hearing entitled “Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) Program”. Testimony was heard from Steve Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; Suzanne Spaulding, Deputy Under Secretary, National Protection and Programs Directorate, Department of Homeland Security; David Wulf, Director, Office of Infrastructure Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT ORGANIZATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Defense held a hearing entitled “Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization”. Testimony was heard from Lieutenant General Michael D. Barbero, United States Army, Director, Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

SEQUESTRATION TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2012 REPORT

Committee on Armed Services: Full Committee held a hearing on Department of Defense Plans for Sequestration: The Sequestration Transparency Act of 2012 Report and the Way Forward. Testimony was heard from Robert F. Hale, Under Secretary of Defense, Comptroller; General Lloyd J. Austin III, USA, Vice Chief of Staff of the Army; Admiral Mark Ferguson, USN, Vice Chief of Naval Operations; General Larry O. Spencer, USAF, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; and General Joseph F. Dunford, USMC, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps.

ASSESSING COLLEGE DATA: HELPING TO PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION TO STUDENTS, INSTITUTIONS AND TAXPAYERS

Committee on Education and the Workforce: Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training held a hearing entitled “Assessing College Data: Helping to Provide Valuable Information to Students, Institutions and Taxpayers”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Full Committee completed a markup of H.R. 1206, the “Access to Professional Health Insurance Advisors Act of 2011”; and H.R. 1063, the “Strengthening Medicare and Repaying Taxpayers Act of 2011”. H.R. 1206 and H.R. 1063 were ordered reported, without amendment.

LEGISLATIVE MEASURE

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Energy and Power held a hearing entitled “The American Energy Initiative: A Focus on H.R. 6172”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Financial Services: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Semi-Annual Report of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau”. Testimony was heard from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

SAFEGUARDING ISRAEL'S SECURITY IN A VOLATILE REGION

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia held a hearing entitled “Safeguarding Israel's Security in a Volatile Region”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY: AN ASSESSMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT AND A ROADMAP FOR ITS FUTURE

Committee on Homeland Security: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “The Department of Homeland Security: An Assessment of the Department and a Roadmap for its Future”. Testimony was heard from David C. Maurer, Director, Homeland Security and Justice, Government Accountability Office; and public witnesses.

REGULATION NATION: THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION'S REGULATORY EXPANSION VS. JOBS AND ECONOMIC RECOVERY

Committee on the Judiciary: Full Committee held a hearing entitled “Regulation Nation: The Obama Administration's Regulatory Expansion vs. Jobs and Economic Recovery”. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

INTERNATIONAL IP ENFORCEMENT: OPENING MARKETS ABROAD AND PROTECTING INNOVATION

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Intellectual Property, Competition, and the Internet held a hearing entitled “International IP Enforcement: Opening Markets Abroad and Protecting Innovation”. Testimony was heard from Victoria Espinel, Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President.

CITIZEN'S GUIDE ON USING THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND THE PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 TO REQUEST GOVERNMENT RECORDS; AND MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Full Committee held a business meeting to approve “A Citizen's Guide on Using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 to Request Government Records”; and a markup of the following: H.R. 4053, the “Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012”; H.R. 5954, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 320 7th Street in Ellwood City, Pennsylvania, as the “Sergeant Leslie H. Sabo, Jr. Post Office Building”; and H.R. 5738 to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 15285 Samohin Drive in Macomb, Michigan, as the “Lance Cpl. Anthony A. DiLisio Clinton-Macomb Carrier Annex”. The report “A Citizen's Guide on Using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 to Request Government Records” was ordered reported, without amendment. The following measures were ordered

reported, without amendment: H.R. 5954; and H.R. 5738. The following measure was ordered reported, as amended, H.R. 4053.

EXAMINING THE ADMINISTRATION'S FAILURE TO PREVENT AND END MEDICAID OVERPAYMENTS

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Health Care, District of Columbia, Census and the National Archives held a hearing entitled "Examining the Administration's Failure to Prevent and End Medicaid Overpayments". Testimony was heard from John Hagg, Director of Medicaid Audits, Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services; and Penny Thompson, Deputy Director, Center for Medicaid and CHIP Services, Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

SIGAR REPORT

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on National Security, Homeland Defense and Foreign Operations held a hearing entitled "SIGAR Report: Document Destruction and Millions of Dollars Unaccounted for at the Department of Defense, Part II". Testimony was heard from Alan F. Estevez, Assistant Secretary for Logistics and Materiel Readiness, Department of Defense; Lieutenant General Brooks L. Bash, USAF, Director for Logistics, Joint Staff, Department of Defense; John F. Sopko, Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction; and Donald K. Steinberg, Deputy Administrator, Agency for International Development.

SEQUESTRATION: THE THREAT TO SMALL BUSINESSES, JOBS, AND THE INDUSTRIAL BASE

Committee on Small Business: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Sequestration: The Threat to Small Businesses, Jobs, and the Industrial Base". Testimony was heard from Mike McCord, Principal Deputy, Under Secretary of Defense; and public witnesses.

REVIEW OF AMTRAK OPERATIONS, PART III: EXAMINING 41 YEARS OF TAXPAYER SUBSIDIES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "A Review of Amtrak Operations, Part III: Examining 41 Years of Taxpayer Subsidies". Testimony was heard from Joseph Boardman, President and CEO, Amtrak; Ted Alves, Inspector General, Amtrak; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a markup of H.R. 6430, the "Public Buildings Reform Act of 2012". H.R. 6430 was forwarded, as amended.

REVIEW OF THE CHALLENGES MAINTAINING LEGACY ASSETS POSE TO UNITED STATES COAST GUARD MISSION PERFORMANCE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation held a hearing entitled "A Review of the Challenges Maintaining Legacy Assets Pose to United States Coast Guard Mission Performance". Testimony was heard from Rear Admiral Ronald J. Rabago, Assistant Commandant for Engineering and Logistics, Coast Guard; and Stephen Caldwell, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office.

FORTY YEARS AFTER THE CLEAN WATER ACT: IS IT TIME FOR THE STATES TO IMPLEMENT SECTION 404 PERMITTING

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment, hearing entitled "Forty Years after the Clean Water Act: Is it Time for the States to Implement Section 404 Permitting?". Testimony was heard from JoEllen Darcy, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works; Denise Keehner, Director, Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds, Environmental Protection Agency; Jeff Littlejohn, Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs, Florida Department of Environmental Protection; and public witnesses.

VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE 112TH CONGRESS: REVIEWING VA'S PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Full Committee held a hearing entitled "Veterans Affairs in the 112th Congress: Reviewing VA's Performance and Accountability". Testimony was heard from W. Scott Gould, Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs.

EXAMINING THE RE-DESIGN OF THE TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing entitled "Examining the Re-Design of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)". Testimony was heard from Danny G. I. Pummill, Director, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Defense Program Office; John K. Moran, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Operations

and Management, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, Department of Labor; Rhett Jeppson, Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development, Small Business Administration; Susan Kelly, Deputy Director, Transition to Veterans Program Office, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense; BG Robert Hedelund, Director of Marine and Family Programs, Marine Corps; BG Jason T. Evans, Adjutant General, USA; Edward Cannon, Fleet and Family Readiness Program Director, USN; Eden J. Murrie, BG, Director of Services, USAF; and RADM Daniel Neptun, Assistant Commandant for Human Resources, USCG.

BENEFITS OF EXPANDING U.S. SERVICES TRADE THROUGH AN INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

Committee on Ways and Means: Subcommittee on Trade held a hearing entitled "Benefits of Expanding U.S. Services Trade Through an International Services Agreement". Testimony was heard from Michael Punke, Deputy United States Trade Representative and Permanent Representative to the World Trade Organization; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

GEORGIA'S PARLIAMENTARY ELECTION

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: Commission concluded a hearing to examine Georgia's parliamentary election, focusing on how free and fair has the campaign been, and how the United States government should respond, including the election's fairness during the run-up to the vote and the vote count, human rights issues connected to the election, and United States policy in response, after receiving testimony from Thomas O. Melia, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights and

Labor; Ariel Cohen, The Heritage Foundation, Rockville, Maryland; Mamuka Tsereteli, American University School of International Service Center for Black Sea and Caspian Studies, Washington, D.C.; and Archil Gegeshidze, Georgian Foundation for Strategic and International Studies, Tbilisi, Georgia.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2012

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

Committee on Energy and Commerce, Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, hearing entitled "The LightSquared Network: An Investigation of the FCC's Role", 9:30 a.m., 2123 Rayburn.

Committee on Ethics, Full Committee, hearing on the matter of Representative Maxine Waters, 9:15 a.m., 1310 Longworth.

Committee on Financial Services, Subcommittee on Domestic Monetary Policy and Technology, hearing entitled "The Price of Money: Consequences of the Federal Reserve's Zero Interest Rate Policy", 9:30 a.m., 2128 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, Subcommittee on Oversight, Investigations, and Management, hearing entitled "DHS Acquisition Management Challenges: Solutions for Saving Taxpayer Dollars", 9 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, hearing entitled "Breaking Through the Backlog: Evaluating the Effectiveness of the New State Strike Force Team", 10 a.m., 334 Cannon.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled "Examining the current status of the Medicare Advantage (MA) program and other health plans", 9:30 a.m., 1100 Longworth.